

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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Memorandum

TO : John D. Blacken
Charge d'Affaires

FROM : Richard A. McCoy
Consul

SUBJECT: Trip Report

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY JOHN SIMMS DATE: September 1, 1977
DATE: 2-27-81

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In addition to the two telegrams filed in regard to my two-day trip to the Northwest Region, the following is a list of officials who I met during my visit.

1. Regional Minister - F. Carmichael (at airport only)
2. Regional District Officer - Robert Wyatt. He is responsible for Matthews Ridge, Port Kaituma and Mabaruma Region.
3. District Officer Port Kaituma - Norman F. Adams.
4. Regional Police Supervisor - Assistant Superintendent Braun. He is stationed at Mabaruma but was in Matthews Ridge for court hearings. He has the same regional responsibilities as Mr. Wyatt.
5. District Police Officer - Inspector J.E. Benjamin. He covers area between Matthews Ridge and Port Kaituma.

Without the cooperation of all the above, my trip would not have been the success that it was. Their interest and assistance was outstanding. In particular, Mr. Wyatt put the Minister's Land Rover at my disposal on August 30 for my trip to Jonestown and Port Kaituma. I was able to spend some time with Norman Adams and Robert Wyatt. I toured Port Kaituma (what there is of it) with Mr. Adams, and I met with Mr. Wyatt on August 31. I was impressed with the enthusiasm of both gentlemen for their jobs. In addition to this short report I am preparing a biographic report on Mr. Wyatt. I briefed Mr. Wyatt on my visit to Jonestown and gave him my impressions of the community (similar to that reported in my telegram about the community.) He appeared relieved that, at least for the moment, there are no pending problems other than the child custody matter which is not a problem for him. Wyatt has only been Regional District Officer for two months, so at least for the foreseeable



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future should any additional problems with the People's Temple arise I will have a good working contact. In fact, I believe the most successful aspect of my entire trip was the useful contacts I have made with the local officials. Hopefully, this will be beneficial to us in the future. I believe that with the large number of Americans now at Jonestown and a smaller group at Yarakita near Mabaruma, a visit to the region be scheduled every six months.

This trip was a most interesting and enlightening experience.

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